

The George-Anne

January 31, 2005

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The GEORGE-ANNE

www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu

Monday, January 31, 2005 • Volume 77, Number 57

NEWS: African art exhibit underway at GSU Museum **Page 2**



AROUND the HOUSE

Sports

• Men's Basketball six game winning streak snapped



• Lady Eagles Basketball falls to Davidson

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Opinions

• Amanda Permenter shares her favorite ways to keep warm in winter

• Knight Ridder/Tribune News service E. Ray Walker explains the benefits of reading

Page 4

Only In America

Crushing Crushes

GODFREY, Ill. — Charles Bonney, 67, and Victor Harris, 36, were detained by police in Godfrey, Ill., in December after squaring off in their vehicles. (Chevrolet Camaro and Acura Integra) and repeatedly ramming each other in the street and then in the parking lot of C&W Auto Glass, because of their ongoing feud over a woman. Eventually, only Bonney faced criminal charges.

More OIA on **Page 3**

News

• Winter storm leaves 300,000 Georgians without power

Page 2

Quote of the Day

"What difference does it make to the dead, the orphans and the homeless, whether the mad destruction is wrought under the name of totalitarianism or the holy name of liberty or democracy?"

- Mahatma Gandhi, from his book "Non-Violence in Peace and War"

Weekday Weather

Monday



HIGH
57°
LOW
34°

Partly Cloudy

Tuesday



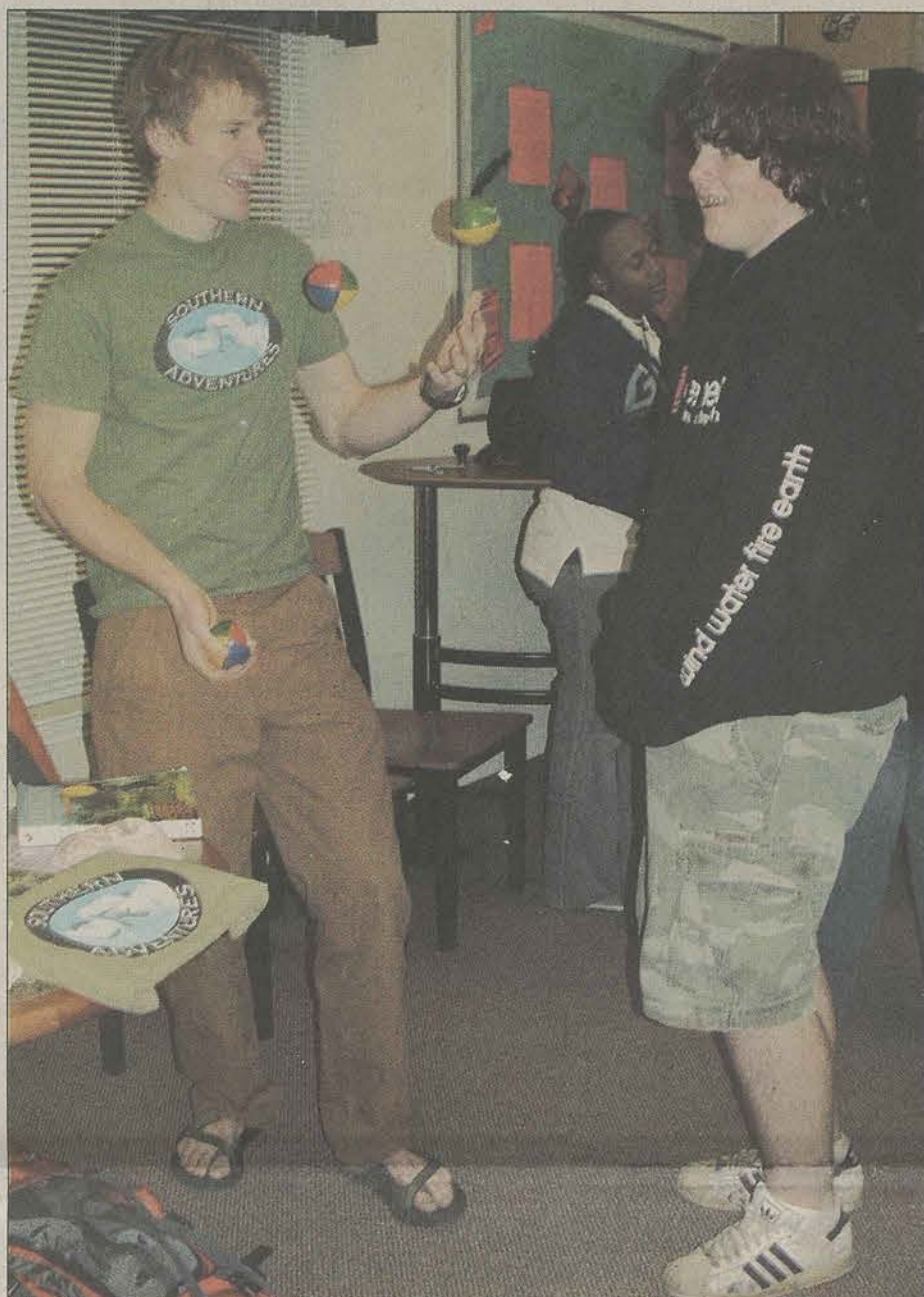
HIGH
55°
LOW
33°

Partly Cloudy

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GSU takes a new approach to student recruitment



Jason Bakewell (left) from Southern Adventures entertains a prospective student by juggling. GSU is one of many schools trying more nontraditional recruitment practices in hopes of increasing enrollment.

By Ryan Jordan
ganewsd@georgiasouthern.edu

Georgia Southern is taking a far more personal approach when it comes to the process of student recruitment.

From birthday cards to personalized e-mail, GSU is just one in a growing number of schools straying away from the traditional approach to student enrollment.

According to Scott Bauer of the Associated Press, more colleges around the country currently use a variety of outlandish tactics to attract students to their campus.

"Forget course catalogs and colorful pamphlets," says Bauer, "Think sex, skiing and rock n' roll."

Stunts used by colleges include birthday cards, ski weekends and even reality TV. According to Bauer, standard issues such as college rankings and involved parents partly drive this new marketing trend. However, Bauer says that, in the case of states such as Nebraska, the trend is part of an effort to fight declining enrollment.

"But not all the gimmicks are received with open arms," Bauer says.

At the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, school faculty and local groups objected to the decision to allow Motley Crue drummer Tommy Lee to film a reality TV show on their campus. School officials at Doane College in Crete, Nebraska apologized after sending recruitment postcards that showed a male student surrounded by women. The postcard encouraged students to "Play the field."

Although GSU avoids using too outlandish tactics, the current methods GSU employ fall in line with the national trend of personalizing the recruitment process.

GSU Director of Admissions Susan Davies says that five principal ways of getting students to enroll include a comprehensive

See RECRUITMENT, page 8

Miss GSU pageant challenges contestants

By Jennifer Maddox
ganewsd@georgiasouthern.edu

Communications Arts major Leslie Culbertson, from Statesboro, was named this year's Miss Georgia Southern University on Saturday.

Recognition was also given to the fourth, third, second and first runner-ups. The runner-ups respectively were Carmen McCart of Statesboro, Toni Lynn Gordon of Jesup, Kimberly Perez of Leesburg and Rebekah Rotton of Metter.

Additional titles given to contestants include the Peoples' Choice Miss GSU, which went to Laura Stone of Waynesboro, and Miss Congeniality, which was awarded to Nelldra Beecham of Columbus.

Contestants in this competition go through a series of competitions that include talent, swimsuit, casual wear (which also consists of a question and answer session), and evening gown contests. The question and answer session conducted during the casual wear contest is meant to give the contestants a chance to make their ambitions known and promote their platform. Each element of the competition is designed to challenge everything from physical health to poise.

"Miss GSU must be talented, sociable, care about her community and be physically fit all at the same time," said Master of Ceremonies Wes Bonner at this year's pageant.

The Miss GSU pageant works in association with the Miss America

See MISS GSU, page 3

Iraqi Elections: long lines, much joy, violence and uncertainty

By Sally Buzbee
Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Iraqis embraced democracy in large numbers Sunday, standing in long lines to vote in defiance of mortar attacks, suicide bombers and boycott calls. Pushed in wheelchairs or carts if they couldn't walk, the elderly, the young and women in veils cast ballots in Iraq's first free election in a half-century.

"We broke a barrier of fear," said Mijm Towirish, an election official.

Uncertain Sunni turnout, a string of insurgent attacks that killed 44 and the crash of a British military plane that drove home the chaos in Iraq isn't over yet.

Yet the mere fact the vote went off seemed to ricochet instantly around a world hoping for Arab democracy and fearing Islamic extremism.

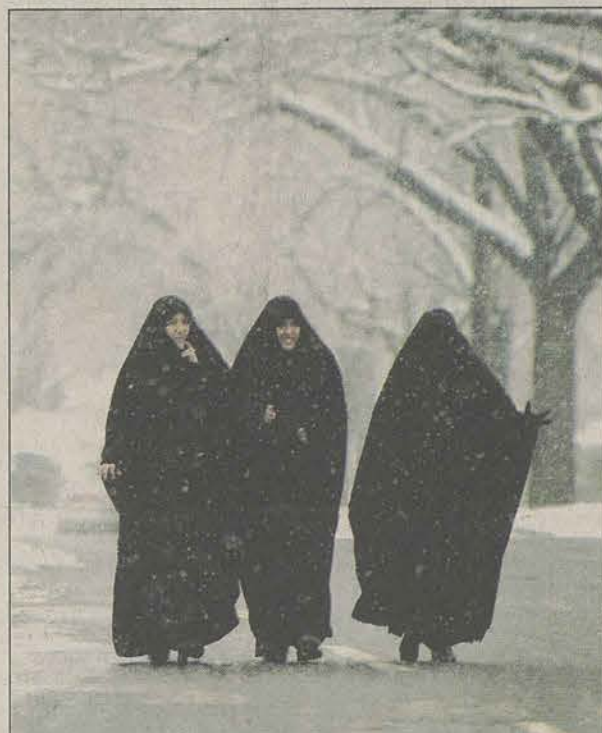
"I am doing this because I love my country and I love the sons of my nation," said Shamal Hekeib, 53, who walked with his wife 20 minutes to a polling station near his Baghdad home.

"We are Arabs- we are not scared and we are not cowards," Hekeib said.

With helicopters flying low and gunfire close by, at least 200 voters stood calmly in line at midday outside one polling station in the heart of Baghdad. Inside, the tight security included at least four body searches, and a ban on lighters, cell phone batteries, cigarette packs and even pens.

The feeling was sometimes festive. One election volunteer escorted a blind man back to his home after he cast his vote. A woman too frail to walk by herself arrived on a cart pushed by a young relative. Entire families showed up in their finest clothes.

But for the country's minority Sunni Arabs, who held a privileged position under



AP Photo/ Matt Houston

Despite the snow, three Iraqi women walk to the election poll to cast their absentee vote in the Iraqi elections Sunday in New Carrollton, Md. Only ten percent of Iraqis living in the US made it to the polls to cast their vote this weekend.

Iraqis defy violence to cast their ballots

Iraq's first free election in half a century moved forward Sunday despite a number of attacks on polling stations that killed at least 44 people.

Events leading to Iraq's historic election

About 300,000 Iraqi and U.S. troops were on the streets and on standby for protecting voters.

Iraq expatriate vote

Registered voters

Friday and Saturday's votes

280,303

186,619

An Iraqi woman casts her ballot in Amman, Jordan on Sunday.



Cities in the Sunni triangle, particularly Fallujah, Ramadi and Beiji were virtually empty of voters.

Election results will take seven to 10 days.

AP

SOURCE: International Organization for Migration

Jackson's thriller

Bizarre courtroom spectacle to unfold as trial gets underway Monday

By Linda Deutsch
Associated Press

SANTA MARIA, Calif. - The child molestation case against Michael Jackson is finally ready for a trial that promises to be like no other.

Jury selection begins Monday, with Jackson expected to appear, in a case that has become a symbol of the American obsession with celebrity. Early Sunday, Jackson issued a court-approved video statement on his Web site, calling recent media leaks in the case "disgusting and false" and predicting he would be acquitted.

"Please keep an open mind and let me have my day in court," Jackson said, looking directly into the camera. "I deserve a fair trial like every other American citizen. I will be acquitted and vindicated when the truth is told."

The uphill task of finding jurors who haven't prejudged the case is a mere prelude to a courtroom contest that will include testimony from the boy who accuses the pop icon of molesting him.

On the defense side of court sits a glittering superstar who appears in makeup and theatrical outfits and has millions of fans worldwide who don't believe he could be a pedophile. Jackson, 46, is charged with molesting the cancer patient - then

See JACKSON, page 3

The Players

The Accused

Michael Jackson



Is being charged for child molestation; has pleaded not guilty

The Defense

Thomas Mesereau



Known for winning hopeless death penalty cases; is using the defense that the children were coerced into lying by their mother

The Prosecution

Tom Sneddon



Has been following Jackson and the events at Neverland Ranch for more than a decade

The Referee

Superior Court Judge Rodney Melville

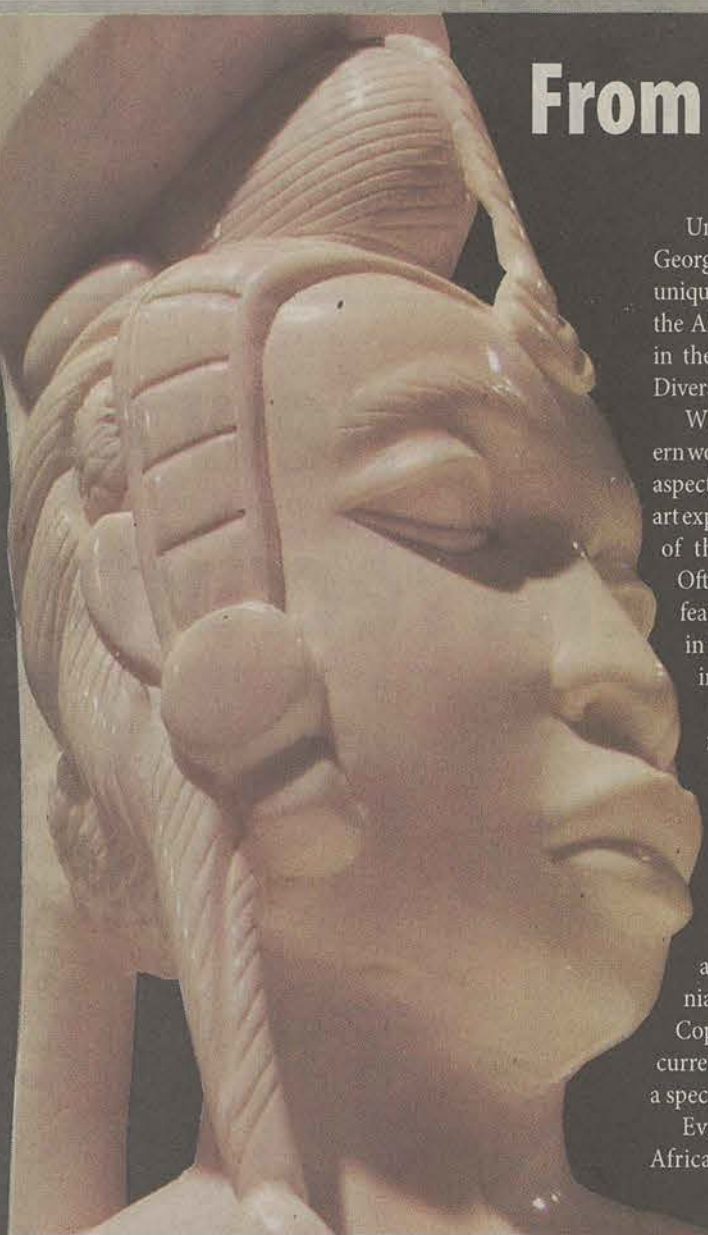
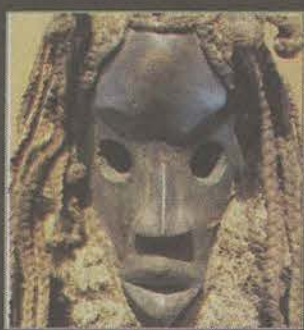


Considered a veteran of the bench; is known for running a strict courtroom

POLICE BEAT

- 01-21-2005**
- Officers issued two traffic warnings, investigated two traffic accidents and assisted three motorists.
- 01-22-2005**
- William A. McDonnell, 28, of College Street, Statesboro, was charged with DUI and failure to maintain lane.
 - A vehicle in the O parking lot had a damaged window.
- 01-23-2005**
- Officers issued five traffic warnings, assisted two motorists and responded to two fire alarms.
- 01-24-2005**
- Cary A. Clark, 27, of Watson Hall, was charged with misdemeanor possession of marijuana.
 - Jermaine W. Cox, 19, of Watson Hall, was charged with misdemeanor possession of marijuana.
 - Joseph D. Dominick, 20, of Watson Hall, was charged with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and carrying a weapon on school property.
 - A window on a University Club Car was broken near the Health Center.
- 01-25-2005**
- Adam Loy Allmond, 21, of Magnolia Way, Statesboro, was charged with public intoxication and obstruction of an officer.
 - Officers issued four traffic warnings, investigated one traffic accident and assisted one motorist.
- 01-26-2005**
- Officers issued one traffic warning, investigated three traffic accidents, assisted five motorists and responded to one fire alarm.
- 01-27-2005**
- A student reported a backpack was taken from the Russell Union computer lab.
 - Officers issued two traffic warnings, investigated two traffic accidents and assisted five motorists.

CAMPUS NEWS



From Sudan to Statesboro

by Kylan Swain and Jessica Luber • ganews@georgiasouthern.edu

Until March 27, visitors to the Georgia Southern Museum will get a unique and diverse look at the art of the African people will be on display in the GSU Museum's "African Art: Diversity in Forms" exhibit.

While the art of the western world orients on the visual aspects of the world, African art expresses the visualization of the conceptual world. Often focusing on specific features, the art is abstract in meaning, but very clear in the visuals.

Throughout the five main regions of Africa (Northern, Central,

Western, Eastern, and Southern), the art differs greatly from any other cultures in that each piece had a use in everyday life. Almost every totem, mask and weapon had both ceremonial and practical value to society. Copper bracelets could be used as currency, and each ornate dish served a special purpose.

Even the mundane objects of African life were highly decorated

with beads, shells and animal parts. African art utilizes found art. People decorated with what they picked up from the ground or what was left over from gathering. The exhibit features an area for children to practice these methods of art, decorating the mundane and using what they find to make something beautiful.

According to Onyile Onyile, curator and Associate Professor for the Department of Art, the exhibit is significant and is important for people to see. "It is intended to educate the public about other cultures, how they live their lives and that many of the items are used on a day to day basis or have religious connotations," Onyile said.

With wall-to-wall art, conveniently placed information posters and videos, this exhibit tries to give a glimpse into just how these pieces were used and represented. Featuring the ugly, the beautiful, the grim, the comical and the childish, this is a well presented and thorough exhibit.

Matthew Gaines/STAFF

STATE NEWS

Effects of winter storm pass, but lights still out for 300,000

By Elliott C. McLaughlin
Associated Press

ATLANTA — The worst of a wicked winter storm seemed to pass as the sun rose in Georgia Sunday, but more than 300,000 homes remained without power.

Georgia Power reported that 235,000 homes in the state were without power, and the Electric Membership Corporation reported 87,000. Of those, a collective 207,000

were in the metro Atlanta area.

Both companies said they hoped to return power to the homes by Monday at the latest. Georgia Power had 5,600 employees — some from Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Oklahoma — trying to restore power to homes, said spokeswoman Konswello Monroe.

Spokeswoman Terri Brown of the Electric Membership Corporation said hundred of workers toiled through the night to restore power to

homes "only to have new pockets of customers go out as the ice collected on the power lines."

Meanwhile, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport was planning to open a third runway. Spokeswoman Lanii Thomas said this is a good sign for the airport, which had, at most, two — and at one point, none — of its runways operable Saturday. Still, fewer than 100 departures were scheduled out of the world's busiest passenger airport Sunday morning, she said.

"I'm sure the airlines are going to do everything within their power to rebuild their schedules," Thomas said.

Calls seeking comment from AirTran and Delta were not immediately returned.

Roads throughout the state, which played roles in at least two Georgia drivers' deaths as the storm set in Friday night, began clearing up, said state Department of Transportation spokesman Ron Battle.

Georgia State Patrol spokesman Larry Schnall said dangerous conditions still existed, especially in rural



A plow clears the street in front of the Capitol Building Atlanta, Saturday, Jan. 29, 2005. Freezing rain and sleet spread sheets of ice across parts of Georgia on Saturday.
AP Photo/John Bazemore

and shady areas and along bridges, but his office received no reports of fatalities Saturday.

Extra troopers were deployed throughout the state, but their biggest concern was a handful of scattered wrecks, he said.

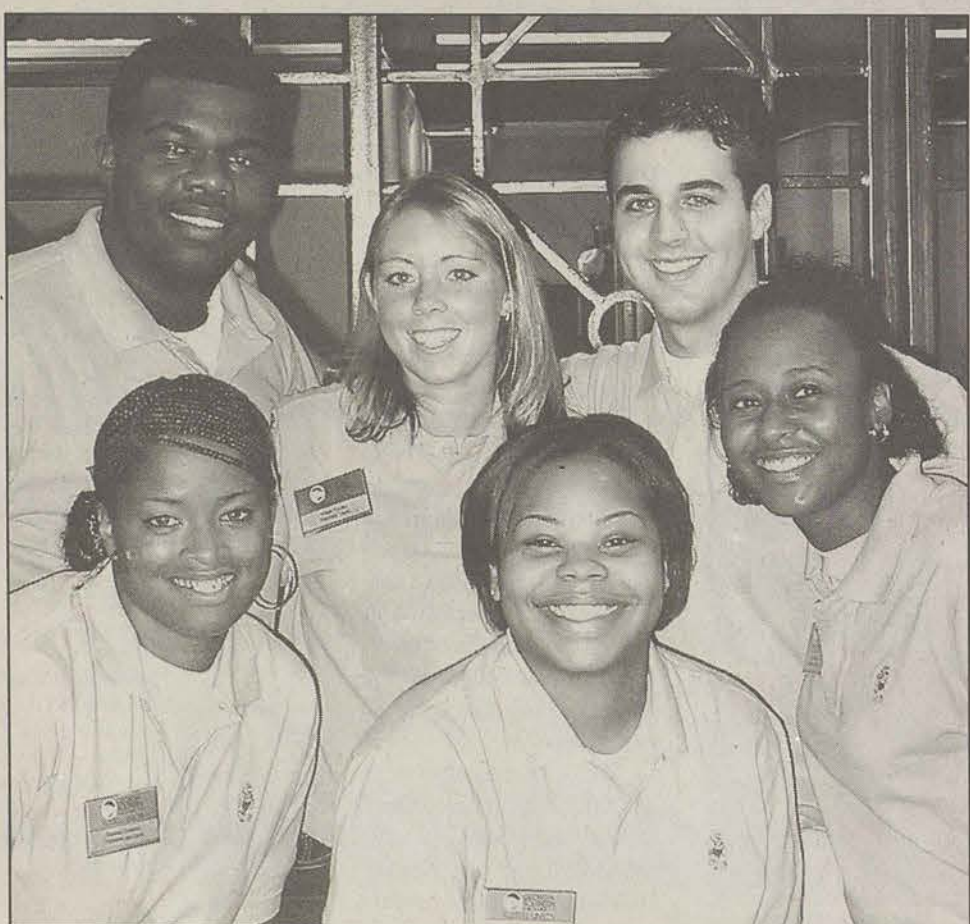
"We had a lot of guys out last night who did very little aside from riding around," Schnall said Sunday morning. "The radio operator said it was actually very quiet last night."

The National Weather Service was predicting a sharp turn in weather conditions Sunday, with highs in the 40s predicted for north Georgia, the 50s for central Georgia and low 60s in south Georgia, said meteorologist Shirley Lamback.

The sun may even creep out from behind the clouds Sunday afternoon, she said, adding that there were no winter storm warnings still in effect for the state.

"We should lose most of the ice, but not all of it," Lamback said.

CAN YOU KEEP UP? Eagle Entertainment Team Leader Selection 2005



2004-05 Eagle Entertainment Team Leaders
From left: Back-Tony Rouse, Kristen Frazier, and Chip Sullivan.
Front- Clarissa Crawford, Hope Grant, and Brandi Stone.

Information Nights:

February 1st at 7pm in RU 2052

February 2nd at 7pm in RU 2052

February 11th:

Applications and letters of support due by 12pm in the SAC

February 14th-18th:

Interviews with applicants

For more info call: (912) 486-7270 or stop the Student Activities Center

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Your Miscellany
Again

...submit to our demands!

We are now accepting submissions for the Spring edition of *Miscellany*. There will be no theme, so give us everything you have!

We will gladly take poetry, essays, short stories, one-act plays, comics, paintings, drawings, photography, sculpture, mixed media, love letters, and cheesecake!

Submission information is available
in the Williams Center, Room 2009.

The deadline for submissions is
Monday, February 21st, 2005.

miscmag@georgiasouthern.edu

Miscellany Magazine of the Arts - 912-681-0565 - PO Box 8001 - Statesboro, GA 30460

The GEORGE-ANNE

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Only in America

Man incorrectly declared dead

RALEIGH, N.C. — A medical examiner studying a body in a morgue was startled when the man took a shallow breath.

Emergency medical technicians had declared 29-year-old Larry D. Green dead almost two hours earlier, after he was hit by a car. "I had to look twice myself just to make sure it was there, that's how subtle it was," Perdue said. Green, 29, was taken to Duke University Medical Center in Durham, where he was in critical condition Tuesday.

Several members of the Franklin County emergency medical service have been suspended pending an investigation.

Straightjacket bear draws criticism

SHELBURNE, Vt. — A straightjacketed "Crazy for You" teddy bear has drawn rebukes from the governor, mental health advocates and human rights groups — but it's a hit among shoppers.

The \$69.95 bear, which is accompanied by commitment papers, is selling well despite complaints that it insults and stigmatizes those with mental illness.

Vermont Teddy Bear Co. President Elisabeth Robert said the company had planned the bear as a one-time offering for Valentine's Day, and that it will continue selling the bear until it is sold out.

MISS GSU, FROM PAGE 1

Organization, which provides millions of dollars in scholarships each year at the local, state and national levels. As of now, the Miss America Organization has provided up to 35 million dollars in cash toward this program. Since 1948, many young women have had the honor of carrying the Miss GSU title and have had the chance to continue their education through this scholarship program.

As the new Miss GSU, Culbertson will have the opportunity to take

advantage of this scholarship money, as well as raise funds for her platform — which is overcoming depression in women. The crown also gives her the ability to serve as ambassador for GSU and represent the university at a number of events.

She will also get the chance to travel to Columbus to compete in the Miss Georgia pageant this summer.

When asked what it was like to be the new Miss GSU, Culbertson was "too shocked" to make a statement.

JACKSON, FROM PAGE 1

age 13, now 15 — after supplying him with alcohol.

On the prosecution side is Jackson's longtime nemesis, a balding, mustachioed Santa Barbara County district attorney. For more than a decade Tom Sneddon has pursued Jackson and what happens at his Neverland Ranch. Jackson has derided him in song as a "cold man" with a vendetta and likened the case to persecution.

Prosecutors have complained that defense lawyer Thomas Mesereau Jr. uses courtroom invective not only to hammer his opponents but also to brand the child witnesses — the accuser and his brother — as liars manipulated by their greedy mother. Mesereau is a tall, imposing man with a mane of white hair, known for winning seemingly hopeless death penalty cases in the South.

The referee is Superior Court Judge Rodney Melville, 63, a veteran of the bench who has refused to tolerate tar-

diness or even, in one case, a bathroom break for the defendant.

At the final pretrial hearing Friday, Melville made it clear that a gag order stands and he won't abide lawyers attacking each other.

Among other things, the transcript included the accuser's testimony that Jackson closed his eyes tightly while molesting him on a bed, and that the pop star ignored the child's warnings that he shouldn't drink alcohol because of his medical condition.

It was the latest flurry in a media blitz that has only intensified since last January, when Jackson danced atop an SUV outside the courtroom and was swarmed by fans as he tried to leave.

The challenge facing the court is not to find jurors ignorant of the case. Instead, it's to find those who say they can put aside everything they have heard and look at what the evidence proves beyond a reasonable doubt.

IRAQ, FROM PAGE 1

Saddam Hussein, the day was not as welcome.

Iraqi election officials said it might take 10 days to determine the vote's winner and said they had no firm estimate of turnout among the 14 million eligible voters.

The ticket endorsed by the Shiite Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani was the pre-voting favorite. Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's slate was also considered strong.

The vote to elect a 275-National As-

sembly and 18 provincial legislatures was only the first step on Iraq's road to self-rule and stability.

Once results are in, it could take weeks of backroom deals before a prime minister and government are picked by the new assembly.

If that government proves successful by drawing in the minority Sunni Arabs who partly shunned the election, the country could stabilize, hastening the day when 150,000 U.S. troops can go home.

National News Briefs

Georgia in danger of losing South's top teacher pay

ATLANTA — As the 1990s turned into the early 2000s, Georgia educators held the enviable position as easily the highest-paid teachers in the South.

Through last year, they still clung precariously to that status, despite two lean years that followed a decade of aggressive pay raises pushed by two governors.

This year, that could change.

Gov. Sonny Perdue has proposed a two percent pay raise for teachers and other state workers in next year's budget after no raise last year and the equivalent of a one percent bump this year.

Meanwhile, states like Virginia and North Carolina have closed the gap,

and could pass Georgia when new teacher pay figures are available.

Georgia teachers had been \$5,200 below the national average in the early '90s, before Gov. Zell Miller, a former college professor, pushed a series of pay raises that moved the state's teacher-pay rank from 34th in the nation to 16th.

Gov. Roy Barnes followed with pay raises for teachers each year of his four-year term. Between the 1993-94 and 2003-04 school years, Georgia's average teacher pay grew an impressive 49.6 percent.

But Perdue took office in 2003 amid a national recession, and the state budget reflected that. Teachers

and other state employees received no pay raise last year.

This year, they technically received a two percent raise, but it didn't kick in until January — effectively creating a one percent raise in overall annual salary.

Georgia education officials say Perdue's two percent proposal — which will cost the state about \$106 million — shows his commitment to education, considering the tight budget the state still faces.

Educators fear that if Georgia slips in the pay rankings, it will make recruiting new teachers even more difficult at a time when the entire nation faces a teacher shortage.



Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue has proposed a two percent pay raise for teachers and other state workers in next year's budget after no raise last year.

Father arrested, suspected of stealing daughter's Ritalin

CORDELE — When Tonya Moudy called police to report that someone had tampered with her child's medication, she likely didn't realize it would get her husband thrown in jail.

After receiving the call Monday, local police discovered that the capsules of Ritalin prescribed to Moudy's daughter were emptied and replaced with sugar.

Ritalin is often used to treat attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder in children, but in adults, it works more like an amphetamine.

Police later arrested Jay Moudy, 31, and charged him with theft by taking, cruelty to children and unlawful possession of a controlled substance, according to a news release from the Cordele Police Department.

Conn. execution remains scheduled

NEW HAVEN, Ct. — A defense attorney for a serial killer who wants to die said Sunday that he will remain on the case, a decision that officials said keeps the inmate on track to become the first person executed in New England in 45 years.

State officials said the execution of Michael Ross remained scheduled for Monday at 9 p.m.

Student to serve 50 years for stabbing former girlfriend

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. — A former Rutgers University student was sentenced to serve 50 years in prison for the stabbing death of his former girlfriend, a fellow student at the university's Newark campus.

Anil Nayee, 37, of Carteret, was convicted of murder and two weapons offenses in October. He was ordered on Friday to serve 42 1/2 years before being eligible for parole.

Authorities said Nayee fatally stabbed Anne Mendez, 23, of Jersey City in October 2001. Mendez was a part-time student at the Newark campus of Rutgers University.

Nayee remained silent throughout his trial and declined to speak on his own behalf at his sentencing last week.

Report gives Georgia a 'B' overall

ATLANTA — Georgia's state government gets an "A" grade for managing its employees, a "B-minus" for handling its money, and a "C-plus" for dealing with infrastructure needs in a new report that attempts to assess how states weathered the economic downturn of the last few years.

The national report lauds Georgia for "what may be the best-managed human resources operation in the country" and says that's a promising step for Gov. Sonny Perdue in pursuing his announced goal of making it the best-managed state in the nation by 2007.

Overall, the state rated a "B" in the report, which was produced by a team of scholars and journalists involved in the University of Richmond's Government Performance Project.

The project is funded with a grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts.

In financial management, Georgia lost some points in the study for relying "on a few dubious budgeting gimmicks" in the past two years to help balance the budget — among them postponing pay raises.

And even though the state's credit rating is among the highest in the country, the researchers faulted Georgia for failing to employ a multiyear

budgeting strategy or to develop a formal ranking system for prioritizing the state's construction needs.

The report also faulted the state for its failure to have a complete inventory of state-owned property, an issue Perdue has started to address.

— All News Briefs compiled from wire reports by Morgan Marsh.

HEALTH SERVICES

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Fraternity

Spring Recruitment

Feb. 1st- Feb. 4th

Meet In Union

Tues., Feb 1st

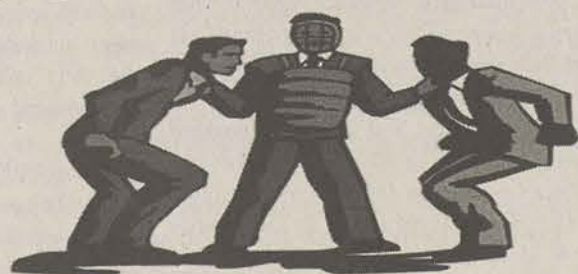
7:00 p.m.

Questions??

Call Greek Life at 681-5185 or visit

<http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/greeklife>

How Do You Deal With Conflict?



Let the Leadership 101 Series teach you "How to Deal with Conflict."

Tuesday, February 1st
5:30pm to 6:30pm
Russell Union, Room 2084

Open to ALL Students and Student Organizations!

For more information, please contact the Center for Student Leadership Development at 871-1435 or email leader@georgiasouthern.edu or visit us on the web at <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/leadership>

Our Opinion

Can the election process be trusted in Iraq?

The Iraqi elections took place yesterday. And while the world and President Bush seem to be thrilled that this voting actually took place with a relatively small amount of violence, we wonder just how great of a milestone these elections are.

It's great that the Iraqi people have now participated in a democratic election, but how democratic was it really?

We wonder if the results from this can be trusted. For one thing, the candidates were just announced a few days before the voting began. Sure, there were concerns for the safety of the candidates, but how were people supposed to know who to vote for when they didn't know who the hell would be on the ballot?

Secondly, who's to say that these candidates aren't pawns of the Bush administration? Since U.S. forces have been the only practical rulers of the country for months, is it so far-fetched that Bush and his team could have hand picked every candidate for each of the parties in the election?

Not really. They have that power. When a country is in the state that Iraq is today, it would be frighteningly easy for a puppet government to take the reins.

Furthermore, if Bush and them didn't choose the candidates, they could have selected one person and easily chose that person as the winner. We're dealing with high technology over there, nor anything that the people there have seen before. If we have voter fraud in our own "civilized" nation, you can imagine how easy it would be there.

Bush has declared these elections a success. In all honesty, we hope he is right. But we do question their validity. What does it mean that they will now have an elected—and not forced—leader? Can our country now begin bringing our troops home?

Only time will tell.

letter to the editor

Some disillusioned with commencement procedures at GSU

I read with interest the letter by Katrina Wood in the January 24, *George-Anne*. I have been interested in graduation as a student experience myself. I have written the provost virtually the same letter each year for the last three years, and I will share its contents with you shortly.

I will attend the Spring Graduation as I have attended all but one graduation over the past twenty-two years. I hope I get to see my stepdaughter graduate. I say hope, because I am not sure this will happen. First, if I am sitting on the opposite side of her line, I might not see her. I can't follow the program because the names read are not in any order except by degree. When I hear her name, if I am not watching her, I will miss her because it will mean she is already across the stage. If either of the names called before her have large contingencies of family and friends who raucously celebrate, then I probably won't even hear her name called. This is the Spring Graduation experience at Georgia Southern.

Below is my letter to the Provost addressing this issue:

Dear Dr. Vandegrift:

After sitting through another interminable graduation, I feel compelled (again) to write and offer my comments and suggestions on what I feel to be a very significant event. I am sending this to the Provost with copies to the President and the Registrar. If there are others who I should have copied, please feel free to forward my remarks. I have no problem with the venue for graduation – the decorations were nice, those who called the names did as well as circumstances permitted, the speaker was fine, and the weather was (fortunately) favorable.

The event, however, lacked any real intimacy or meaningfulness. I saw very few of my students graduate. When I did hear a familiar name, it meant that I had missed the graduation. The event was one, long, loud cacophony of names. Only mildly amusing was the business announcers' dueling names routine. The event ended and it was difficult to see students and to meet their parents. I have

always looked forward to seeing my students graduate and meeting parents afterward.

My recommendation is that each college has a ceremony on the day before graduation to honor their graduates. Each college can have a faculty line of march and students would dress in their robes. A faculty member and a student each would deliver brief addresses. Student accomplishments could be noted at this time. Each student would have his or her name called and would receive congratulations and a token from the College. After the ceremony, there should be a reception for administrators, faculty, students and parents where we could all meet.

On Saturday morning we should all assemble for the conferring of degrees. This ceremony would feature a keynote address by a nationally known speaker and degrees would be conferred by degree and college respectively. Parents and students would then have considerable time for family celebrations.

As it is now, graduation is boring, frustrating and meaningless. I would be glad to discuss these ideas further at any time.

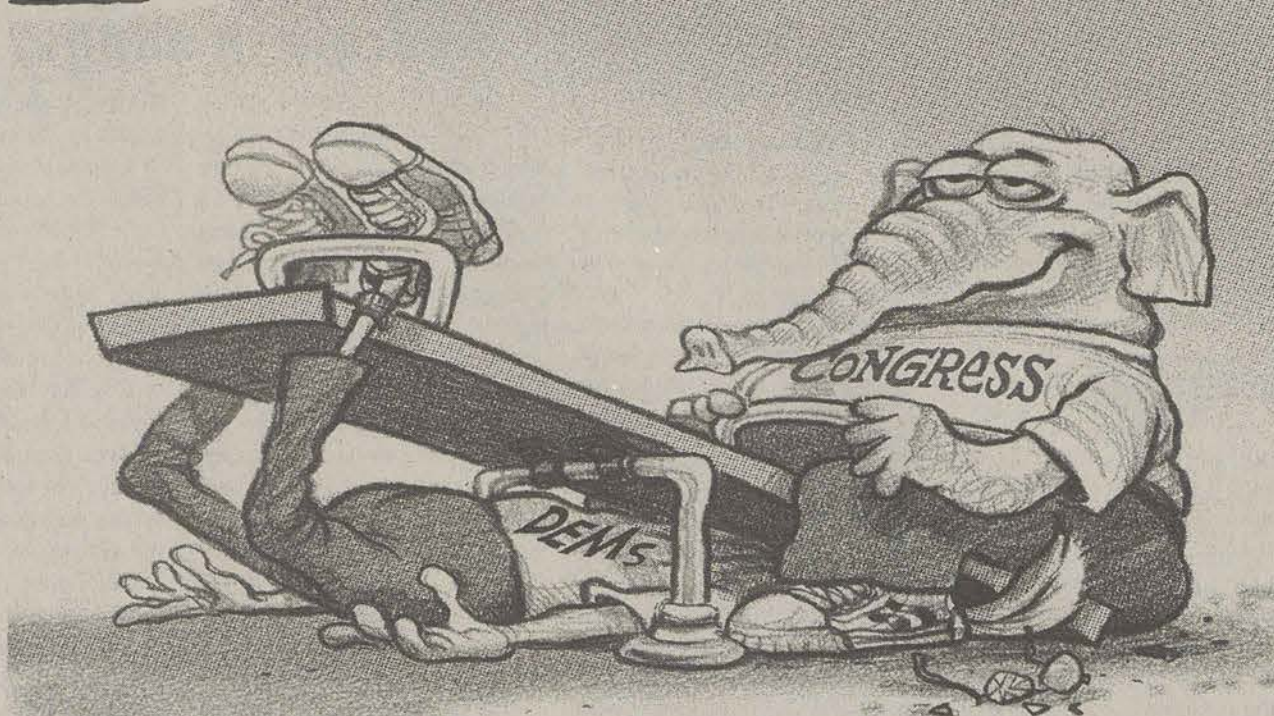
The graduation ceremony would have been more "special" if the names of both the retiring emeritus faculty and the university award winners had been announced to all in attendance and those faculty members recognized. Both readings together may have added one more minute to the total time for graduation, but would have added significant "class" to the event and would have been appreciated by the students and faculty. I fail to understand how this small act of "class" is continually overlooked. How long does it take to recite twelve names, then six?

Finally, I call for a survey of faculty and students and ask these special groups what they prefer if given options. Perhaps you'll be surprised.

Michael Moore

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A few ways to beat the winter blues

Dig out your heavy sweaters. It looks like winter – a season Statesboro seldom sees – has graced us with its presence this year.

With expected lows in the thirties for the week ahead, we might wake up some morning to find our abnormally blue campus lakes abnormally solid. My thin skin can freeze easily, so I'm full of ways to beat the frost. To keep you from turning the same shade as the lakes, I've compiled a list of my favorite ways to keep warm.

Get a space heater.

Sometimes our drafty apartments just can't sustain what we hopefully set the thermostat for. Then again, sometimes our roommates are hot-natured freaks who open all the windows and turn on box fans when it's freezing outside. Either way, a space heater is a good, relatively inexpensive way to keep toasty. A cheap but sufficient one will run you about \$25 at the Wal-Mart store. (Where else?) But, if you live in a residence hall, either don't enforce this option or don't tell them I told you to. Such appliances are against the rules on campus.

Layer clothing.

For you fellas, thermal underwear can work wonders. And, as long as you wash them regularly with bleach, they can even be quite sexy. Ladies: a pair of thick tights or even scanty panty hose under

jeans or slacks can absolutely save your freshly shaved gams from rashes brought about by bitter cold. (Or, if you're like me, they'll protect your already hairy ones.) Add a pair of knee-high boots and it'll feel like a spring day. Sort of.

Also, everyone can benefit from shirt stacking and stocking stuffing. Just one extra shirt and another pair of cotton socks can keep you twice as insulated. Scarves and gloves are often too much for busy people like us to keep up with, so make sure your coat or jacket zips up high and has deep, warm pockets.

Wear a fuzzy hat!

According to the American Heart Association and other medical sources, much of the body's heat is lost through the head if it is left uncovered. A hat can help hold in at least 30 percent more body heat, meaning the rest of you will get warmer faster and stay warmer longer. Not only are hats good for the heart, they can be a great means of expression for the soul. Beanie caps with a favorite team or band and stylish colorful head toppers can make a statement about your personality or liven up any outfit.

Get more blankets and pillows.

While it might make it a lot harder to get up and go to class, more blankets and pillows on couches and beds will greatly reduce teeth chattering after a long day weathering the chilling wind. Electric blankets,



Amanda Permenter
editor-in-chief

See PERMENTER, Page 5

Reading: A prescription for America

By E. Ray Walker

Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON – Reading this sentence is good for your mental health. In fact, reading anything is good for you.

It may also be helping generations to come.

The problem is, we're becoming a country of non-readers. And, as our librarian first lady could say, only in a more grammatically correct way, that ain't good.

First, a science lesson. Brain researchers have long known the link between mental exercise (think of reading as a Stairmaster workout) and a healthy life. It's the brain's internal wiring and something called synapses (electrical impulses; think spark plug) that control body functions ... like thinking. As long as the wiring and synapses thingies are in tune, all's well. It's when they slip into disuse that mental abilities begin to fade. As they say, use it or lose it.

It doesn't matter whether one spends quality time with Jane Austen or John Grisham, *The Wall Street Journal* or the local *Daily Fish Wrapper*, the act of reading helps keep the brain active and keeps those spark plugs firing away. Have nothing handy? Check out the label on a can of soup. Whatever.

For the record, other gray-matter calisthenics include playing word games and board games, dancing, learning a foreign language, doing your own math instead of using a calculator, and writing. Snippy e-mail missives don't count.

Just last summer, a National Endowment for the Arts survey found a dramatic decrease in Americans who read literature (novels,

plays, poetry, short stories), with more than half – HALF! – of Americans not reading for pleasure. The survey found an overall decline of 10 percentage points in literary readers from 1982 to 2002, a loss of 20 million potential readers.

Said NEA Chairman Dan Gioia: "The decline in reading among every segment of the adult population reflects a general collapse in advanced literacy. To lose this human capacity – and all the diverse benefits it fosters – impoverishes both cultural and civic life."

While the NEA survey found reading declines in all demographic groups, it was particularly dramatic among those 18 to 24 years old. Among this group, the decline was 55 percent greater than that of the total adult population. At the current rate of loss among the young, literary reading will virtually disappear in 50 years, the NEA warns. That's not exactly reassuring.

At the other end of the age spectrum, it is the older person who can benefit from a lively novel that engages the imagination. Reading forces us to think, to keep those little synapses rat-a-tat-tatting.

Note to Gramps: We are not suggesting that mental decline is a fact of aging. It definitely is not. In fact, some brain functions – judgment, wisdom – improve with the years.

A report in the June 2003 *New England Journal of Medicine* found that seniors can reduce their risk of dementia 35 percent by reading several times a week. Other activities were found to be even more beneficial in

reducing the risk: playing a musical instrument, 69 percent; and learning new dance steps, 76 percent.

The concern is with the retiree who after a career of being mentally engaged at work suddenly finds himself with little to do other than watching trees grow. Talk about letting those synapses snooze. Can memory loss be far behind?

"The decline in reading among every segment of the adult population reflects a general collapse in advanced literacy. To lose this human capacity – and all the diverse benefits it fosters – impoverishes both cultural and civic life."

– Dan Gioia
Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts

It doesn't have to be that way. Check out what's on the bookshelf and devour it. Your brain can use the exercise. In fact, the NEA survey found that readers are more likely to be involved in cultural, sports and volunteer activities than are non-readers.

Keep on synapsing; it just might help you win over new friends and influence people. You're on your own in the "handsome" department, but we guarantee readers an uptick in the "witty" and "wise" categories.

A grateful nation thanks you.

E. Ray Walker is the op-ed editor for Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service. Readers may write to him at: KRT, 700 12th Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington, D.C. 20005-3994.

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CORRECTION:

In the Thursday, January 27 edition of *The George-Anne's* This Week In History, we inadvertently omitted astronaut Edward H. White in the list of those who died in the 1967 Apollo 1 tragedy. White logged more than 3,000 flight hours during his lifetime including more than 2,200 in jet aircraft.

Letter and Submission Policy

The *George-Anne* welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns from people both inside and outside the GSU community. All copy submitted should be 250 words or less, typed, preferably sent via e-mail in Microsoft Word format to gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed and include a mailing address and phone number for verification. The editors reserve the right to reject any submission. Submissions are run on a space-available basis.

letters to the editor

The only humane answer: The death penalty

In an article in *The George-Anne* on Monday, January 24 titled "Our Opinion: Death penalty still not cool," the editorial board of this paper argued the thesis that the death penalty is "crude and barbaric."

They compared the United States government to that of Saddam Hussein's despotic regime with the line, "They kill their people and we're killing ours as well." This argument is far-fetched to say the least. The argument creates a forced analogy that doesn't fit. Hussein murdered peaceful political dissidents, athletes who didn't perform to his liking and women who would not submit to him "properly." The United States puts to death only the most heinous criminals from Ted Bundy to Timothy McVeigh.

The editorial board's argument consisted of four major points; flawed Christian belief, the cost factor, government involvement, and the barbaric and crude nature of the act.

The board points out the Christian belief from the Old Testament of "an eye for an eye" and then goes on to claim that the New Testament does not speak of this. As is so often the case with liberals quoting the Bible they know just enough to hang themselves.

The key distinction in the Bible is between revenge and state authorized retribution. According to the Bible revenge is sinful and inappropriate, "Never try to get revenge: leave that, my dear friends, to the retribution. As Scripture says, vengeance is mine -- I will pay them back, the Lord promises." Romans 12:19. In the following verse the Bible makes it clear that it is the governing body's duty to dole out punishment appropriate to the crime, "...if you do wrong, then you may well be afraid; because it is not for nothing that the symbol of authority is the sword: it is there to serve God, too, as his avenger, to bring retribution." Romans 13:4.

The second point was the cost factor. Liberals argue that the death penalty is far too expensive and drains the American economy. This is by far the most ridiculous part. The expense they claim is derived from the appeals process. This point would only be true if you were to believe that a person sentenced to death would appeal more than a person sentenced to life imprisonment.

The editorial board questions the role of government in the death penalty. This point seems somewhat ambiguous, as the government is the same when choosing life in prison. The board also offers no alternative to the idea of government involvement.

One of the key points arguing for the death penalty is control of the victims' families thirst for revenge. This governmental control prevents extreme bloodshed and extended family vendettas. The victim's family can take solace in knowing that justice will be served and feel no need to personally exact revenge on the murderer or the murderer's family. This would in turn lead to retribution on the victim's family creating an unending cycle of violence and lawlessness.

Thankfully there is a system in place in the United States today that allows victims families to be pacified, the murderer a chance at defense and finally an orderly controlled end to a threat to human life.

The final argument is the barbaric and crude nature of the act. The death penalty has come a long way from the guillotine and stonings, to the quick and painless death of lethal injection. The murderer is given every advantage possible. First, in this country it is widely understood that if you commit a murder you will most likely face the death penalty. This concept is known as deterrence and has surely served to save innumerable lives.

Second, the murderer must be convicted, without a shadow of a doubt, guilty by a unanimous jury, all twelve. Finally, the murderer is allowed to appeal as many times as possible. The murderer is allowed to petition the state governor for a stay of execution. If all else fails, the murderer is allowed ample time to get their affairs in order and say their goodbyes. In fact, the murderer's life ends much smoother than the life of the victim.

The death penalty protects the society we live in. It serves three important and noble goals; to provide deterrence to would-be killers, to pacify the victim's family's response and finally to prevent future murders from being committed by the murderer.

In the execution process a life is lost and that is regrettable, but an incalculable number of lives have been saved. People learn that murder equals death and choose not to commit murder. The victim's family has no need to exact their revenge on the murderer's family, and the murderer cannot kill again. Therefore the only humane answer is the death penalty.

Josh Moran
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The right to information & the right to question science

Chuck Thomas recently addressed the Cobb County School's court case regarding evolution education in "Evolution spats better left to scientists." We are addressing his views that the stickers should be removed due to their alleged religious nature, his incredulity that anyone would dispute evolution and the reasons why everyone should critically analyze what we know as science.

On the issue of science education, origins of life may be the controversial issue, but many theories in science courses should be critically analyzed. After all, scientific endeavors attempt to discover truth through research, and when needed, correct and update even what is popularly accepted as fact. If that were not so, we would still believe that Copernicus was radical for contesting the widely accepted belief that the Earth was the center of the universe.

Chuck Thomas mentions, "it is safe to assume that [Marjorie Rogers'] reasons behind the stickers were of a religious nature." That may be, but Federal Judge Clarence Cooper determined that their motives were "non-religious" and that the stickers "fostered critical thinking," despite what Thomas wrote. So, if they were non-religious and fostered critical thought, why were they ruled unconstitutional? Cooper asserted that, because the sticker described evolution as "theory" and not fact, some might think the school endorses religious criticisms of evolution, so he ordered the removal of the stickers.

Apparently he changed his mind and decided they were religious after all. He must be protecting us from our "ignorance" by demonstrating that any opposition to evolution is religious, intolerant fundamentalism and is thus unconstitutional.

Regarding Supreme Court case *Epperson v. Arkansas*, Justice Hugo Black wrote:

"Certainly the Darwinian theory, precisely like the Genesis story of creation of man, is not above challenge. In fact the Darwinian theory has not merely been criticized by religionists but by scientists, and perhaps no scientist would be willing to take an oath and swear that every thing announced in Darwinian theory is unquestionably true."

Even in this case Justice Black sees the importance of understanding that evolution should be scientifically criticized, and questions scientists' certainty of evolution.

In 2004, prominent professor of philosophy and atheist apologist Antony Flew publicly announced, "It now seems to me that the findings of more than fifty years of DNA research have provided materials for a new and enormously powerful argument to design."

Flew says he "had to go where the evidence leads." If this atheist man of science will objectively consider the evidence, why won't everyone else? Why won't we allow the right to that information for our children? That is the point that most desperately needs to be championed in this case.

We should all take interest in the Cobb County trial because it is really about breaking scientific paradigms, encouraging critical thinking and guarding our right to information.

Though many people believe that any dispute with evolution has a religious motive, that is not always the case. At the Discovery Institute (www.discovery.org), Christian and non-Christian scientists have researched Intelligent Design theory (ID) for many years, as has biochemist Dr. Michael Behe of Lehigh University, who is not, in fact, a literal creationist. They and others release extensive publications about the overwhelming evidence for ID and against macroevolution (changes from one species to another).

ID, to explain briefly, emphasizes that because each intricate part of our bodies is so irreducibly complex (e.g. blood clotting, vision, the cilium), we could not have resulted from slow, natural, unguided processes; rather than chance, our bodies are evidence of design. There is a large amount of evidence against macroevolution, though many who recognize this are somehow labeled "crazy fundamentalists."

So why question science? Can scientists be mistaken? By examining how we obtain knowledge, we can see how scientists might obtain wrong conclusions. We learn things in two ways - by experience and authority. Learning by experience involves recalling simple everyday facts. We can learn it was sunny at GSU today by walking outside and experiencing the weather. The second way we learn is by authority. This means that we learn from others about things we haven't experienced. This is either because they have experience we don't or they have learned from others. Michael Behe explains more in *Darwin's Black Box* in the section titled "How Do You Know?"

"Scientists are people, too, so we can ask how scientists know what they say they know. Like everybody else, scientists know things either through their own experience or through authority. In the 1950's, Watson and Crick saw a diffraction pattern produced by shining X-rays on fibers of DNA and, using their mathematical abilities, determined that DNA was a double helix. They knew by doing, from their own experience. As an undergraduate, I learned DNA is a double helix, but I have never done an experiment to show it; I rely on author-

ity. All scientists rely on authority for almost all of their scientific knowledge. If you ask a scientist how she knows about the structure of cholesterol, or the behavior of hemoglobin, or the role of vitamins, she will almost always point you to the scientific literature rather than to her own records of what she has done in her laboratory..."

"Molecular evolution is not based on scientific authority. There is no publication in the scientific literature - in prestigious journals, specialty journals, or books - that describes how molecular evolution of any real, complex, biochemical system either did occur or even might have occurred. There are assertions that such evolution occurred, but absolutely none are supported by pertinent experiments or calculations. Since no one knows molecular evolution by direct experience, and since there is no authority on which to base claims of knowledge, it can truly be said that - like the contention that the Eagles will win the Super Bowl this year [1996] - the assertion of Darwinian molecular evolution is merely bluster..."

"In effect, the theory of Darwinian molecular evolution has not published, and so should perish."

Clearly Behe shows that scientists are human, and, like the rest of us, they're prone to mistakes, biases and agendas.

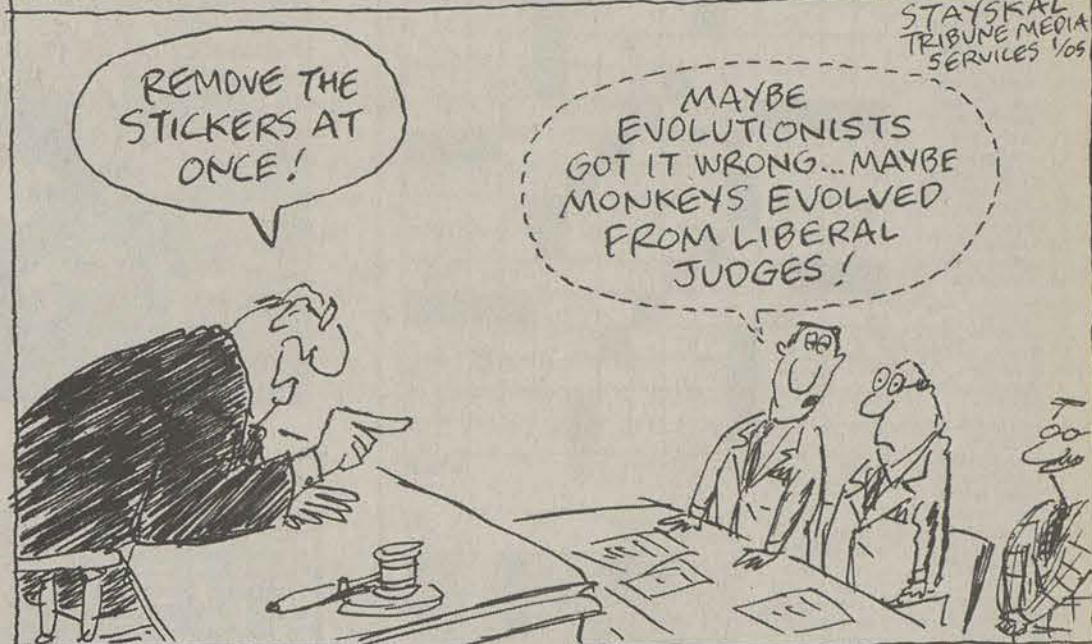
So whom do we trust? If scientist don't know everything and have not experienced everything, then whom do we trust for truth? Maybe a good starting point is to consider who has authority and experience. The only person we know of in history who claims to have authority and experience about matters of life and death is Jesus. To help understand what we are talking about, look into the Bible and into what Jesus' message was.

There is a very influential book that addresses science, Jesus and what is in it for us. We challenge you to read *More Than a Carpenter* and *Evidence That Demands a Verdict* by Josh McDowell.

And, for anyone open-minded enough to consider other scientific theories and evidences, here are some resources: Forgeries, mistakes, other holes in evolution and more: <http://geocities.com/capecanaveral/campus/3770/Noev.htm> The many problems with evolution, evidence for ID: www.discovery.org Behe, Michael. *Darwin's Black Box* Strobel, Lee. *Case for a Creator* Information on the Cobb County case and Supreme Court case *Epperson v. Arkansas* found at www.thomasmore.org.

By Andy Gray & Lydia Murdock
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JUDGE RULES SCHOOL DISTRICT'S TEXTBOOK STICKERS SAYING EVOLUTION IS A 'THEORY, NOT A FACT' ARE UNCONSTITUTIONAL



PERMENTER, FROM PAGE 4

though they can be expensive, are indispensable provided you never leave them unattended. If you have one, try putting it between your sheet and comforter, then turn it on fifteen minutes before bed. It'll keep you warm and help you to sleep faster.

Drink hot chocolate or tea!

There's nothing like getting right to the core of things. Try thawing out from the inside. Hot chocolate is yummy and there are dozens of cheap

ways to make it. Put some in a plain old thermos and it'll stay warm for you all the way to class. Of course, there is such a thing as too much rich sugar.

Break the monotony with a hot flavored tea. There are so many flavors of tea out there you could probably have a different one every day of the year. Try a citrus or ginseng one to get you going in the morning and a jasmine or chamomile before bed.

Cuddle.

Yeah, it's cheesy. But, it's true. Nothing creates warmth like a good mollycoddling. Cuddling is best accomplished while napping, walking or watching rented movies. And it doesn't necessarily have to be romantic. Friends can cuddle, or at least huddle, for warmth.

In fact, every tip above can be more fun if shared with someone else.
gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu.

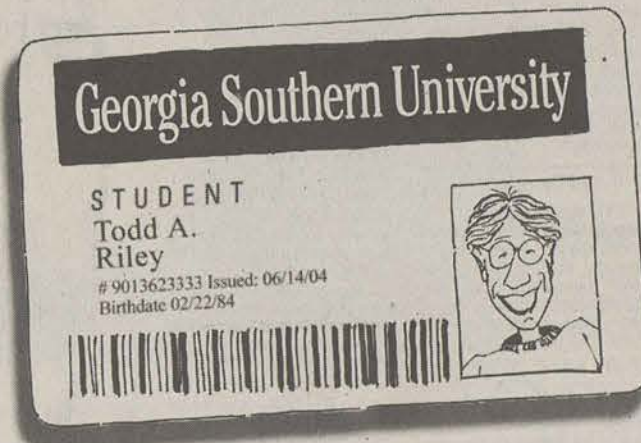
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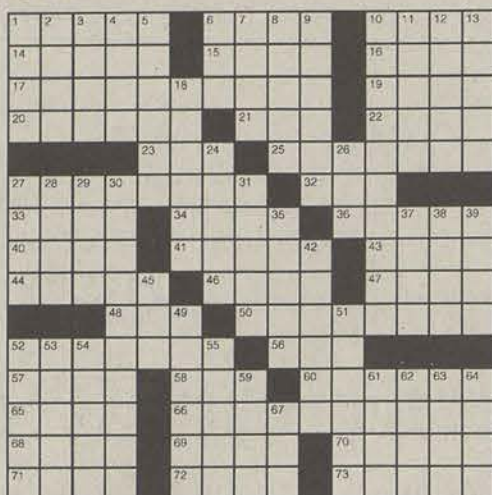


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Crossword

ACROSS
1 Patsy Cline hit
6 Humdrum
10 Lawman Wyatt
14 Eagle's home
15 Cotton bundle
16 Perfect server
17 Fermented ale
19 Recital piece
20 Gets rotten
21 Coblentz gal
22 Chi-town paper
23 Food-bag tidbit
25 Hush!
27 More zany
32 Musical gift
33 Sailor's greeting
34 Starting from the top
36 Pituitary or pancreas
40 Basilica section
41 Nun's garb
43 Nastase of tennis
44 Least desirable portion
46 Thick porridge
47 Singer Horne
48 Kiddie seat
50 Paint container
52 Biggest circle on earth
56 Ouija board answer
57 Presses for payment
58 RV driver's stopover
60 Iditarod state
65 Skedaddles
66 Occurring by chance
68 Superior's inferior?
69 1999 Ron Howard satire
70 First name of a plane?
71 Notices
72 Flushed
73 School report



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10/08/04

Solutions

4 Pasta type
5 Jaundiced
6 Patio platter
7 Extol
8 Lotion botanicals
9 Jazz pianist
10 Spring bloom
11 Oak, in a nutshell
12 Reminder of times past
13 Do exploratory work
18 Hebrew prophet
24 Midmorning hr.
26 Bring up the rear
27 Hourglass filler
28 Scorch
29 Wander
30 Spectacles
31 Puzzle type
35 Filamentous
37 Actor Baldwin
38 Singer Simone
39 College bigwig
42 Thin strand
45 Was left idle

49 More given to movement
50 Behaves
61 Dancer Pavlova
62 Organ knob
63 Leafy veggie
64 Of the armpit
67 Trellis climber

PAUL

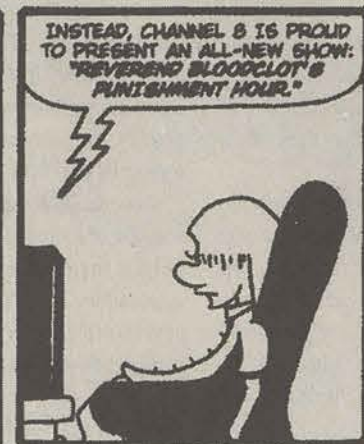
SO ELECTION DAY IS ALMOST HERE AND THIS MOORE GUY IS JUST A TOTAL IDIOT! HE'S JUST A BIG PHONY LIKE OF THE REST OF THEM.



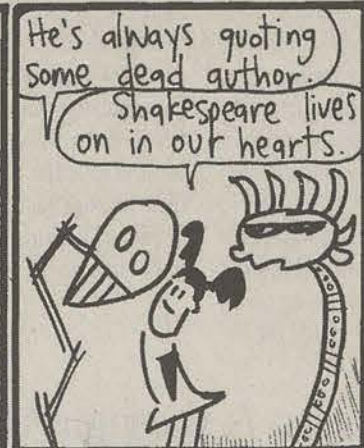
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Out of my Head

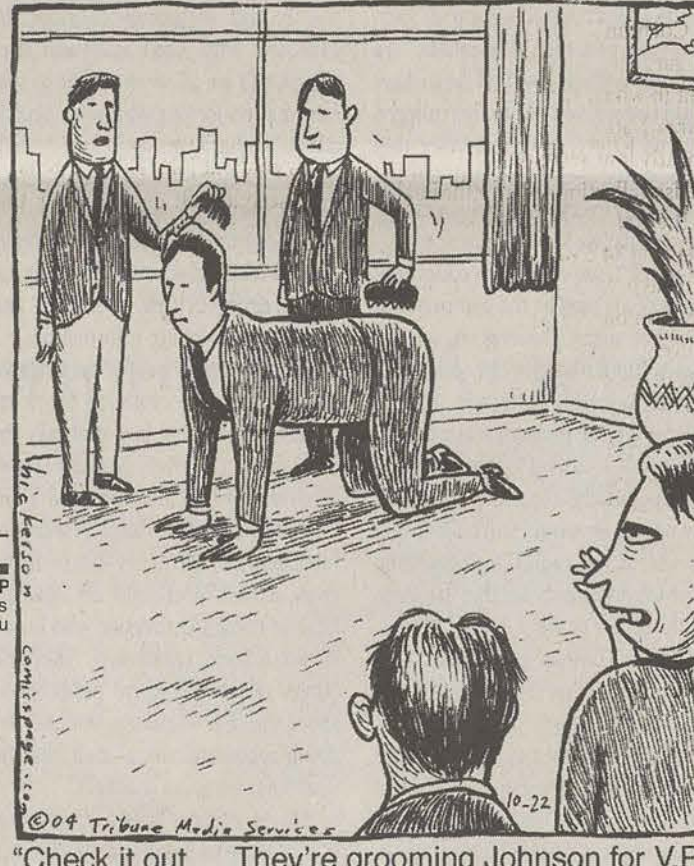
by Scott Carlson



The Family Monster by Josh Shalek



www.joshshalek.com, kid_shay@joshshalek.com



20 Announcements

HAVING A meeting next week? Place an ad in **The George-Anne** to boost your attendance!

WORK STUDY position available in Academic Success Center. If interested and eligible, call Ms. Salvo, 912-681-5371, for interview.

FASHION SHOW: DREAM-SICLE, The Essence of Fashion Feb. 3, 2005, Union Ballroom 7:30 pm! Don't miss this one! Info: 912-871-7936.

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PART TIME file clerk needed for medical office. Typing and transcription skills a plus. Mail resume to PO Box 2591 Statesboro, GA 30459.

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site at <http://www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu>.

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The George-Anne screens all advertisements prior to publication. The newspaper strives to accept ads for legitimate products and services only. Students are urged to exercise caution when replying to ads — particularly those which require a credit card number, other personal information, or money in advance of the delivery of a product or service. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper any suspicious offers which they might see in an ad. Remember, if an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

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ALL FREE student and faculty ads to be run in the George-Anne must have a NAME, P.O. BOX and PHONE NUMBER. Ads will be rejected if they do not have this information. NO EXCEPTIONS.

OFFICES, MAIL, PHONES

Room 2023, F.I. Williams

165 Mobile Homes

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for info.

290 Travel

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Visit our Web site for list of places to visit and things to do that are both educational and fun. On-line at <http://www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu/funstuff/>

stuff/

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The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students and utilizing the facilities provided by GSU. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The ideas expressed herein are those of the editor or the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Student Media Advisory Board, the administration, the faculty and staff of Georgia Southern University, or the University System of Georgia. The George-Anne is published three times weekly (Monday-Wednesday-Thursday) during the academic year and six times during summers. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the editor at by phone at 912/681-5246 or fax at 912/486-7113. Readers may access the newspaper and its archives staff by visiting our web

site at <http://www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu>.

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Room 2023, F.I. Williams

Center. The George-Anne, P.O. Box 8001, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Ga. 30460. 912/681-5246 (News) or 912/618-5418 (Advertising) or 912/486-7113 (Fax); 912/681-0069 (adviser).

EMAIL DIRECTORY

Editor in Chief: gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu
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News Editor: ganews@georgiasouthern.edu
Advertising: ads@georgiasouthern.edu

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The George-Anne reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.

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The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is Noon, one week prior to the intended publication date.

FOR MORE INFO, rate

cards, sample publications, contact: Lindsey Treadwell, Marketing Director, ADS, (912) 681-5418, ads@georgiasouthern.edu, or Bill Neville, Student Media Coordinator, (912) 681-0069, bneville@georgiasouthern.edu

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sified ads from students, faculty and staff must be non-commercial in nature and submitted in writing, with the name of the sender, local address, and phone number. No free ads taken via telephone — at this price we don't take dictation. One free ad per person per week. Commercial classified are 25 cents per word with a \$5 minimum per insertion. Tearsheets are \$2 extra per insertion.

CIRCULATION INFORMATION:

Mail subscriptions are not available at this time. However, readers may visit our web site for free access to current and past issues. Visit www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu. It is the goal of the newspaper to have its edition placed on-line within 24 hours of publication. Breaking news will be placed on-line as warranted. The George-Anne is distributed free of charge on the Georgia Southern University campus through delivery sites located in campus buildings, at off-campus sites,

and in residence halls.

NOTICE

Readers may pick up one free copy, and a second for a roommate or acquaintance, at distribution sites. Additional copies are 50 cents each and are available at the Williams Center. However, unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under Georgia law, a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine and/or jail time. Editors will seek to have any person(s) who removes more than the authorized number of copies from distribution sites prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

NOTE

We gratefully acknowledge the theft of our slogan — "Liked by Many, Cussed by Some, Read by them All" — from Robert Williams of the Blackshear Times. Call Bob and he can tell you who he stole it from originally.

Rip us off

That's right, classified ads are free for students, faculty and staff. Here's the deal: 20 words or less, submitted with this handy form or via email to ads@georgiasouthern.edu. You can also place ads in person at the G-A office, Room 2022, Williams Center. One ad per person per issue. Non-commercial use only.

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Address: _____

Name, address and telephone number is required for ALL free ads.

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Swim team finishes season with a splash

Cunningham, Cochran and Williams excel in swimming and diving regular season finale

GSU Athletics Media Relations

The Georgia Southern swimming and diving team wrapped up their regular season Saturday afternoon with a triple dual meet at Hanner Natatorium. Seniors Florrie Cunningham and Leslie Williams both closed their career in grand fashion, winning two individual events.

During the meet the Eagles set one school and two pool records. Cunningham set a new pool record in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 58.62 seconds, erasing the old mark of 58.74 seconds set by Kristin Newkirk



Florrie Cunningham

of Richmond in 2001. Cunningham also swam the third leg of the record-setting 400-yard medley relay team. Finishing in 4:00.77, the team of Kelli King, Cochran, Cunningham, and Kimberly Morris set another new pool record. Much like Cunningham, Cochran was not satisfied with setting only one new record on the day. Her time of 1:05.42 in the 100-yard breaststroke established a new school mark, bettering the previous record by nearly a full second.

Although they did not do so in record-breaking fashion, Cunningham and Cochran were able to collect two additional first-place finishes during the day. Cunningham turned in a winning time of 53.36 seconds in the 100-yard freestyle event. The time also established a new season-best for her. Cochran cruised to victory in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:24.91), an event in which she already holds the Hanner Natatorium record, winning by nearly four seconds.

Also collecting a win for the Eagles was the 400-yard freestyle relay team consisting of Cunningham, Morris, Jen Clayton and Britney Simons. They fashioned a time of 3:41.16 in the event.

Williams, a senior diver from Watkinsville, Ga., brought her regular-season career to a memorable close by winning both diving events. One day after both she and teammate Katie Dierkes qualified for the NCAA diving regionals in March, Williams posted winning totals of 232.80 (one-meter) and 224.78 (three-meter).

The team came away with one win and two losses on the day. The Eagles picked up a victory against conference rival Florida A&M during the meet, outscoring the Rattlers 232-39. They came up short, however, against Gardner-Webb for the second consecutive day, falling 166-125 to the Bulldogs while also losing a 151-146 heartbreaker to College of Charleston.

Overall, the Eagles produced 15 top-three finishes in the 16 events during the meet, which closed out their regular season. The squad finishes the year with a 6-4 overall mark and a 5-2 record against Northeast Conference members. They now have nearly three weeks off before they participate in the NEC swimming and diving championships, set to take place Feb. 17-19 at the Prince George's County Sports and Learning Complex in Landover, Md.



Special photo
GSU sophomore Germano Knorr returns a serve during Sunday's tournament.

Men's tennis evens record with win over FAMU

GSU Athletics Media Relations

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - The Georgia Southern men's tennis team squared their record at 1-1 with a victory over the Florida A&M Rattlers on Sunday. The Eagles took five of the six singles matches and also claimed the doubles point in winning 6-1.

Head coach Justin Miles opted for consistency, as he used the same lineup that he deployed for the season opener January 23 against Charleston Southern. His strategy proved fruitful as his charges earned multiple hard-

fought victories over the course of the match to reward him with the team's first victory.

Five Eagles claimed victories during the singles matches. Senior Danie van den Heever, playing at the number 2 position, earned a 6-2, 7-6(4) win over Vassil Zahariev. Lasha Janashia ran his season record to 2-0 with a 6-2, 6-4 triumph over Frank Green at No. 3. Charles-Henri Trottet (No. 4), Tom Green (No. 5) and Germano Knorr (No. 6) each posted their first wins of

the young season as well. The only loss suffered by the Eagles came at the No. 1 spot, where junior Vincent Patry dropped a 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 decision to Pfungwa Mahefu, a first-team All-MEAC performer last season with the Rattlers, who sit at 0-1 after dropping their season opener.

In doubles play, Patry and van den Heever outlasted Mahefu and Zurab Zhvania 9-8(5) at the No. 1 slot. At No. 2, Janashia and Knorr lost 8-4 to Clifford Malivert and Zahariev, but

the Eagles captured the doubles point with an 8-6 win from Trottet and Green at No. 3.

The men's team will return to action with two matches this upcoming weekend. They will square off against Georgia State at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4 at Hanner Courts before taking to the road for a February 6 showdown with Georgia Tech, currently ranked 35th by the ITA. The match against the Yellow Jackets is set to begin at 2:30 p.m.

Second half comeback ends Eagle streak

By Matt Rapp

gasportseditor@yahoo.com

Charleston, SC - The Georgia Southern men's basketball squad fell to College of Charleston this past Saturday 71-64 bringing their six game winning streak to a screeching halt.

The Eagles (12-8 overall, 6-3 SoCon) dominated the first half early, letting the Cougars know that they came to town to win.

As more of a statement game than anything, GSU still remains tied for second place in the South Division of the Southern Conference after the loss.

The Cougars (13-6 overall, 6-3 SoCon) found it hard to make baskets in the first half as they only made eight of 39 field goal attempts.

With five unanswered baskets, the Eagles stretched their early lead to 13. A frustrated Cougars squad struggled to make free throws, missing over half of the attempts.

Ending the first half with a 33-20 lead, the Eagles managed to tame the rowdy sold out John Kresse Arena.

A second half comeback by the College left Eagle fans shocked. Just as CoC began to gain some momentum, a technical foul was called on the Cougar bench allowing Elton Nesbit to sink two baskets.

Near the middle of the second half, Senior Jean Francois came out of the game because of cramps. On the next possession Donte Geene came out from what looked like the same problem.

Then came the Cougars. College quickly nailed back-to-back threes followed by a steal to put them right back in the game, trailing by only six.

After a time out the Eagles brought both of their key players back in and stretched their lead back to nine points with less than ten minutes to go.

With Terry Williams in foul trouble late in the game, the Cougars pulled within three igniting an already electric crowd.

C of C found their first lead at the



GSU forward Jean Francois blocks a shot against College of Charleston's Tony Mitchell during the first half of Saturday's game.

six-minute marker off their second 10-0 run of the game.

The game was all but over at that point as the Eagles couldn't put the points on the board and the Cougars

found a little extra push to finish out the game at 71-64.

"They had a lot of momentum and a good crowd in the second half. The most important thing is they were still

tied for second place in our division," said Terry Williams after the game.

The Eagles will travel to Savannah State for their next game tonight at 7 p.m.

Women's basketball falls at Davidson

GSU Athletics Media Relations

DAVIDSON, NC - Katie Hamilton and Emily Callahan combined for 23 points to lead Davidson to a 65-36 victory Saturday afternoon at Belk Arena.

Georgia Southern (10-9, 7-6 SoCon) opened on a 4-0 run before Davidson (12-8, 9-4 SoCon) responded with a 28-6 run, including two straight Jessica Mitchell three-pointers.

After not scoring for nearly seven minutes, the Eagles cut the deficit to 13 at the break as Kellie Tiller hit her second trey of the game with 1.2 seconds remaining in the half, giving Davidson the 29-16 advantage at the break.

Neither team shot the ball particularly well in the first half, with Davidson shooting 38.5 percent (10-of-26) while GSU shot 26.9 (7-of-26). Tiller led the Eagles with six points at the break.

Dana Benemon scored the first basket of the second half, cutting the deficit to 11, which was as close as the Eagles got.

Davidson went on a 11-0 spurt on three treys, extending their lead to 20 with 16:37 remaining in the game. GSU put together a 7-0 run, but the Wildcats answered with an 8-0 run of their own.

The Eagles could not put together another run, as the Cats ended the game on a 17-6 run, for the 65-36 victory.

The 36 points scored by GSU is the third lowest point total in program history. Tiller led the Eagles with 10 points.

Hamilton scored a game-high 13 points, while Callahan finished with 10, four shy of her 1,000th point. Shawnda Atwood tallied a career-high four assists.

The Eagles return to action tonight as they travel to SoCon foe Chattanooga for a 7 p.m. tip-off.

Lady Eagles

Next Game:

When: Tonight 7 p.m.

Where: McKenzie Arena, Chattanooga, TN

Eagle runners wrap up competition in Mountaineer Winter Invitational

GSU Athletics Media Relations

BOONE, NC - The Georgia Southern track and field team tacked on another five top-five finishes Saturday as they completed competition at the Mountaineer Winter Invitational. The Eagles collected ten overall top-fives over the course of the two-day meet.

After a record-setting performance in last weekend's Niswonger

Invitational, sophomore Nicole Brown continued her excellent start to the season. She competed in only one individual event, the 55M dash, but made it count by finishing second with a time of 7.02 seconds. Brown's effort fell just short of making her only the second GSU track athlete to break the seven-second barrier in the event, but still places her second all-time among

Eagle indoor record holders.

GSU was able to place two runners among the top five finishers in the 400M dash as junior Rashedah Arnold and freshman Lisa Crum turned in strong performances. Arnold, already the school record holder in three individual events, claimed fourth with a time of 59.41 seconds. Crum's time of 1:00.51 was a season-best for her

and netted fifth place.

Not wanting to be left out of the action, sophomore Lauren Jacobs recorded a fourth-place finish in the long jump. Her distance of 18'9.25" is a new career best, and ranks as the fourth-longest jump in the GSU indoor record book.

Other top finishers for the Eagles included the 4x400M relay team,

which finished second with a time of 4:06.67, Dominique Thurman in the 200M dash (26.96 seconds; 9th) and Emily Greeson in the shot put (38'6.25"; 7th).

The track and field squad now has two weeks to recuperate and prepare for their next meet. The Eagles will travel to Clemson, SC February 12 for the Tiger Invitational.

Super Bowl Challenge

Answer the 5 questions correctly and
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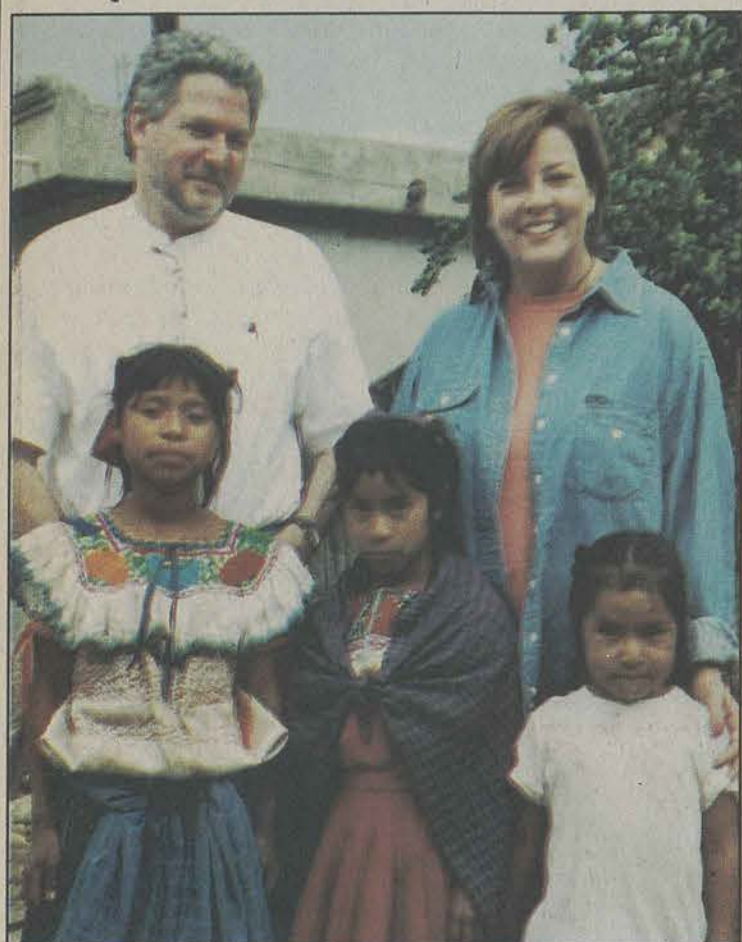
1. Which team is the defending Super Bowl champion? _____
2. Where will Super Bowl XXXIX be held this year? _____
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4. What is the New England Patriots all-time Super Bowl record? _____
5. Which QB holds the record for most career Super Bowl touchdown passes? _____

Sponsored by:

Moe's Super Bowl Challenge - Official Rules
Georgia Southern University Student Media in association with Moe's Southwest Grill
presents the Moe's Super Bowl Challenge.
CONTEST: In order to win, contestant must answer all questions correctly. One name will be randomly selected from all correct entries.
HOW TO ENTER: Contestant must fill out provide contest form and must include (printed legibly) legal name, local address, local phone number, and email address if available.
DURATION: The contest begins January 27, 2005 and ends February 3, 2005 at 5 p.m. All entry forms become the property of Moe's Southwest.
ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible to enter, contestants must be a Georgia Southern University student, faculty, or staff member. University ID will be required to confirm eligibility and claim prizes.
PRIZES: A Moe's prize package including a Moe's t-shirt and hat and two (2) \$10 gift certificates to Moe's Southwest Grill located at 608 Brannen Street, Statesboro, GA 30458.

Submit entry forms Moe's Southwest - 608 Brannen Street, Statesboro. Winner will be drawn February 3, 2005.

If you like exotic travel, watch out for exotic diseases



Keogh Family Handout/AP Photo
In this photo provided by the Keogh family, Phoenix chief financial officer Kevin Keogh and his wife, Karlene, pose with local children during the Keoghs' vacation Sept. 1, 2001, in the town of San Cristobal, Chiapas, Mexico. Doctors believe Keogh contracted a parasite on the vacation which may have caused seizures and hallucinations that ultimately led to his death in an auto accident.

By Marilyn Marchione
Associated Press

Kevin Keogh spent the morning doing ordinary chores. By afternoon, he was climbing out the window of his Mercedes and onto the roof as it sped down a busy street. Standing on top of the car, his arms outstretched as if he were surfing, he jumped to his death.

What would make the chief financial officer for the city of Phoenix do something so bizarre?

A leading theory is a parasite he caught on a trip to Mexico several years earlier. The bug can live for years inside the body, travel to the brain and cause seizures and hallucinations — symptoms Keogh started suffering a few months after his trip.

His death in December is an extreme example of an exotic illness picked up in a foreign land. It's a goes-with-the-territory downside that many people underestimate when they venture into territory far from their backyards.

American travelers made more than 56 million foreign trips in 2003, up from more than 44 million a decade earlier. They often bring back germs that can take weeks or months to cause symptoms and diseases, which American doctors may be slow to recognize.

It took eight months for doctors to figure out Keogh's illness, said his wife, Karlene. A blood test showed he

had cysticercosis, a parasitic illness often acquired from undercooked pork and common in Latin and Central America. The Maricopa County Medical Examiner's office is awaiting more tests to determine whether that led to his death.

"He was in excellent health, otherwise. Whether he was in his right mind or not, no one can say," said Dr. Rebecca Hsu, who is handling the case. "I do believe something horrible happened to this poor man."

Keogh had traveled to a remote part of Mexico to explore artifacts and ruins, which he loved. A growing number of Americans are traveling overseas and to more non-traditional tourist destinations.

"Paris, London, Rome used to be exotic travel," said Dr. Phyllis Kozarsky, an Emory University professor and senior travel health consultant to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Now people want to outdo each other" by heading for more obscure destinations.

Usually, the risk is limited to the traveler because most germs aren't easily spread person-to-person, Kozarsky said. But SARS showed some germs can affect public health. Another example is American travelers who returned with malaria which was then passed onto mosquitoes that bit them back home in the Carolinas, New York City

and Palm Beach, Fla. These mosquitoes then bit local residents who had no reason to suspect they had a tropical disease because they hadn't gone anywhere tropical.

Illness can be more annoying than the easily treated "travelers' diarrhea" that develops in half of all people who visit a developing country for two weeks or longer.

Mary Steigerwald, a Phoenix nurse who is vice president of communications for Ottawa University, knows that kind of misery. Doctors think she got a parasite on a trip to Asia, where she felt pressured to eat things like shark-fin soup at business meetings. She had diarrhea for 18 months.

Tauxe teases his sister, Lisa Tauxe, a geologist at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, Calif., who got hepatitis from a trip to Africa. She doesn't know what did it: the miniature zoo in the water she swallowed while windsurfing in a polluted bay or the raw sea urchin she had afterward.

The boom in extreme travel and adventure tourism has some health experts worried.

"Many people feel that their lives are overly routine, overly bureaucratized, that they're constrained by institutions," said Lori Holyfield, a University of Arkansas sociologist who has studied people who seek ultimate experiences like rock-climbing in remote places.

But they often get more than they bargained for. A whitewater rafting expedition in Costa Rica in 1996 gave five rafters leptospirosis, a serious disease that can lead to organ failure. It's caused by rodent urine contaminating water.

A bigger outbreak of it occurred in 2000, when more than 100 people from around the world competed in an endurance event called EcoChallenge in Malaysia. Health officials at first had trouble figuring out what sickened them because of the endless possibilities: competitors had swum in rivers, crawled through bat-dung-encrusted caves and hiked through jungles where everything from malaria to tsetse flies were present.

Adventurous hunters and fishers have to worry, too. A few years ago three Wisconsin hunters got trichinosis from eating the meat of a bear they'd shot in Alaska. Bear meat is notoriously full of parasites.

Sometimes exotic illness does public health a favor. The germ cyclospora, recently linked to raspberries from central America, was first identified in the early 1990s in people on a high-altitude expedition who got sick on lettuce.

If you do travel, experts say you shouldn't let your guard down on the way home. Food on the plane usually comes from the country you visited, not where you are going.

RECRUITMENT, FROM PAGE 1

mailing plan, a telephone recruitment plan, travel, e-mail and visitation programs.

When a student shows interest in the university, GSU mails them a university view-book and DVD. Other publications include a scholar's guide aimed at students eligible for the honors program and a publication specifically for parents. Davies said that the parent publication is unique to GSU, adding that the current generation tends to rely on their parents more than the previous generation.

"All the research shows that they're really a lot more attached to their parents," Davies said. "As a result we really try to involve the parents more."

Like other schools, GSU sends birthday cards to accepted students. "We've had a lot of students say that that made a big difference for them," Davies said.

According to Davies, GSU's telephone recruitment consists of 11 student tele-counselors who call and speak with potential students. Like other schools, GSU sends out student recruiters to college fairs and high

schools. However, GSU is unique in that student recruiters handwrite postcards to the students they meet.

GSU also holds dessert receptions at hotels in various cities such as Atlanta, Albany, Macon and Jacksonville so that potential students can meet with representatives from each of the school's academic colleges.

Admissions sends e-mail customized to the students based on where they live and their personal interests. However, Davies added that the campus web presence could be improved.

"Our website, I would say, is very flat," Davies said. "The student can only take information from it. There's not a lot of interaction. We need that."

Manuel Gomez, vice chancellor of student affairs at the University of California, stated that the most outlandish recruiting ploys occur in the most competitive markets in which schools are trying to increase enrollment, boost name recognition, or advertise a change in mission.

"All of this puts the student in the driver's seat," Gomez said.



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